5 June 1945 SECRET

OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES
Research and Analysis Branch

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REFERENCE DIVISION
FILE COPY
PLEASE RETURN
REF

097.3
Z1092
No. 3113

R & A No. 3113

OUTLINE OF PROJECT

PRINCIPAL NAZI ORGANIZATIONS INVOLVED IN WAR CRIMES

involved in war crimes

I. PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES

The purpose of the project is to establish the jurisdictional responsibility of such organizations and institutions as the Nazi Party, the Reich Government, and the Armed Forces (Wehrmacht) for the commission of specific crimes. The group approach (as opposed to the consideration of isolated persons) is based on the assumption that the indictment of these organizations or their agencies may expedite the prosecution of war criminals and help to prove that Nazi war crimes are not purely individual acts committed in violation of existing laws but are the manifestations of an over-all plan which relied, integrally or implicitly, on specific organizations as instruments essential or incidental to the execution of its purpose.

The project as defined renders it unnecessary, then, to compile a case-book of Nazi crimes perpetrated either by groups or by individuals. Their nature and scope will be adequately covered by the specific categories of charges listed below. Nor will it be necessary to analyze all Nazi organizations in order to evaluate their functions. Only those

organizations, or parts thereof, need be analyzed which by virtue of their jurisdiction bear responsibility for the perpetration of certain categories of war crimes as subsequently defined.

Proof, documentary or otherwise, must be furnished with respect to the following counts:

a. That the organizations in question, or parts thereof, have been established for the specific, although not necessarily exclusive, purpose of perpetrating or helping in the perpetration of crimes -- e.g., the SS, Main Economic and Administrative Office, Office Group D: Operation and Administration of Concentration Camps;

b. That by the nature of their functions these organizations, or parts thereof, have been instrumental in the perpetration of crimes -- e.g., the Organization Todt;

c. That by virtue of their functions these organizations, or parts thereof, have prepared, inaugurated, facilitated, or justified and upheld the perpetration of crimes -- e.g., the Propaganda Ministry, the Office of the Four Year Plan, the People's Court, and other agencies engaged in policy-making, propaganda, legislation, and adjudication.

II. THE DEFENDANTS

The defendants, it has been suggested, will fall into two categories:

a. Individuals, such as Hitler and Goering;

b. Organizations, such as the SS and Gestapo, which are so implicated in the common enterprise and the overt acts to be charged that they are deemed to share in the criminal liability.

The defendant organizations may be official or unofficial. As has been noted, they may be tried on a group representation basis; that is, they may be charged with criminal acts or with complicity therein by putting on trial such of their members as the tribunal may determine to be fairly representative.

This project deals with the second category of defendants and with the men who were their leaders when crimes were being committed. This method of selection will provide a proper basis for the selection of the individual defendants.

A. Selection of organizations

The selection of Nazi organizations will be made, wherever possible, both according to function and according to charge.

1. Selection according to function

The term "Nazi organization" comprises a multitude of groups and agencies which were engaged in a variety of activities, not all of which are related to war crimes or crimes as such. Furthermore, individual Nazi organizations included a large number of functionaries and members in varying positions of responsibility -- some of them in positions of no responsibility

whatever. Consequently, a wholesale indictment of some Nazi organizations, e.g., of the NSDAP itself, would be impractical. It would insufficiently identify the immediate responsibility of certain agencies and offices within their respective Nazi organizations for the commission of special crimes within their area of jurisdiction -- e.g., the Gestapo within the Reichssicherheitshauptamt. It would likewise overlook the specific degree of responsibility exercised by functional groups and agencies according to their hierarchical status within the organization -- e.g., the Gauleiter within the Party. It will be necessary, therefore, to evaluate the responsibility of organizations, such as the NSDAP, the Government, the Armed Forces, or even of such smaller organizations as the SS, the Police, etc., through an analysis of the specific responsibility of their component subdivisions for the crimes. A procedure of this sort will not only help to allocate specific crimes to specific agencies; it will also facilitate the establishment of a scale of responsibility (and punishment) according to the agency's or individual's functional proximity to the crime in question.

2. Selection according to charge

In order to clarify further what Nazi organizations shall be defendants, it will be necessary to establish the relation of individual organizations and agencies, or parts thereof, to specific categories of charges. These charges are:

a. That at some time prior to 1 September 1939 the defendants entered into a common plan or enterprise aimed at the

establishment of complete German domination of Europe and eventually the world, which plan or enterprise included or intended, or was reasonably calculated to involve the use of, unlawful means for its accomplishment, including the commission of atrocities and other crimes listed below;

b. That on or about 1 September 1939, and at various times thereafter, the defendants launched illegal wars of aggression;

c. That in the course of conducting such wars the defendants violated international law; the laws, rules, and customs of war; or the laws of sea warfare.

d. That before or after such wars of aggression, and during their continuance, the defendants instigated, committed, or took a consenting part in atrocities and other crimes which were in violation of international law or treaties, or the laws of Germany, or the laws of one or more of its allies, co-belligerents, or satellites;

e. That the atrocities and other crimes mentioned above were committed pursuant to, or in the course of and as a chosen means for, executing a common criminal plan or enterprise among the defendants.

B. Allocation of responsibility

In order to classify an organization as a defendant, proof must be furnished that the organization, or parts thereof, was implicated in the perpetration of crimes covered by one or several of the above charges.

establishment of complete German domination of Europe and eventually the world, which plan or enterprise included or intended, or was reasonably calculated to involve the use of, unlawful means for its accomplishment, including the commission of atrocities and other crimes listed below;

b. That on or about 1 September 1939, and at various times thereafter, the defendants launched illegal wars of aggression;

c. That in the course of conducting such wars the defendants violated international law; the laws, rules, and customs of war; or the laws of sea warfare.

d. That before or after such wars of aggression, and during their continuance, the defendants instigated, committed, or took a consenting part in atrocities and other crimes which were in violation of international law or treaties, or the laws of Germany, or the laws of one or more of its allies, co-belligerents, or satellites;

e. That the atrocities and other crimes mentioned above were committed pursuant to, or in the course of and as a chosen means for, executing a common criminal plan or enterprise among the defendants.

B. Allocation of responsibility

In order to classify an organization as a defendant, proof must be furnished that the organization, or parts thereof, was implicated in the perpetration of crimes covered by one or several of the above charges.

CHARGE I: Plot for World Domination

The outline of this count is being prepared separately. Charge I is leveled at all organizations involved in the formulation of an over-all plan which, eventually, led to the (pre-meditated) commission of crimes. Acts pertinent to this category of charges thus may not have been criminal per se but comprise all those used in preparation, furtherance, and execution of the criminal plan, including (but not limited to):

a. The defendants' internal and external policies;

b. Their ideological, organizational, and material preparations for the commission of the atrocities and other crimes charged against them, and

c. The pre-war (pre- 1 September 1939) atrocities and other crimes, and those committed by the defendants against their fellow nationals, neutrals, stateless persons, and nationals of the United Nations.

Organizations to be charged with the formulation of the over-all plan are to be found within the Party, the Government, and the Armed Forces, or in official or unofficial collaboration with all or some of these three pillars of the Nazi system. They include the following offices and organizations:

On the Party Level

The Führer

Reichsleiter, Gauleiter, and Reichdienststellenleiter (Hauptamtsleiter and Amtsleiter)

Specific Party offices

Delegate of the Führer for Indoctrination
Reich Propaganda Leader
Reich Leader for the Press
Reich Press Chief
Foreign Political Office
Party Colonial Office, Foreign Organization

Party Formations

SS (Reich Main Offices, especially Reichsicherheitshauptamt, Main Section Leaders, and Higher SS and Police Leaders.)
SA (Supreme SA Command, Main Group, and Group Leader
Hitler Youth (Reichleadership)
NS Motor Corps and Area Leaders (Reichleadership)
NS Women's League (Reichleadership)
NS Students' League (Reichleadership)
NS University Teachers' League

Party Affiliates, e.g.

German Labor Front
NS Professional Leagues (Physicians, Teachers, Lawyers, etc.)

Other Party related organizations

Reich Labor Service
NS Flying Corps
Folk League for Germans Abroad
German Foreign Institute
Bi- and inter-national associations and institutes

On the Government Level

Head of State

Chanceries

Reichskanzlei, Praesidialkanzlei

Secret Cabinet Council

Reich Cabinet

Reich Ministries

Foreign Office (Division of Culture and Politics
Justice
Economics
Interior (including Police, i.e. Order, Security, and Secret State Police)
Finance
Labor
Education
Food and Agriculture
Propaganda
Ecclesiastical Affairs
Air

Office of the Four Year Plan and Commissioners appointed thereunder

The Reichstag

On the Military Level

Supreme Commander

Supreme Command of the Armed Forces (OKW)

Office of the Abwehr
Chief Operations Staff

High Command of the Army (OKH)

High Command of the Navy (OKM)

High Command of the Air Force (OKL)

Proof is to be furnished that these organizations have been responsible for the establishment and/or execution of one or several of the following policies:

a. Indoctrination of Germans, at home and abroad, with Nazi ideology;

b. Co-ordination of political, professional, and economic

activities inside Germany for the purpose of establishing the monopoly of the Nazi Party in all spheres of public and private life;

c. Abrogation or minimization of civil liberties, constitutional rights, due process of law, and parliamentary procedures;

d. Infiltration into non-German organizations and agencies and foreign countries for the purpose of propaganda, espionage, sabotage, and subversion;

e. Organization of human and economic resources for the purpose of preparing and waging aggressive wars against other nations.

CHARGE II: Launching of Illegal Wars, Aggression, and Violation of International Treaties

This charge is more or less self-explanatory. It includes the wars waged by Germany against Poland, Denmark, Norway, Holland, Belgium, France, Yugoslavia, Greece, and the USSR. Also included are aggressive actions against Germany's former allies -- e.g., Bulgaria, Rumania, Hungary, Finland, and Italy. This count is not to be prepared by OSS; but it will be the task of OSS to determine the agencies and their leaders involved in this count. Agencies covered by these charges include:

On the Party Level

The Führer

The Reichsleiter and Gauleiter

The Press and Propaganda Offices of the Party

The Foreign Organization

The General and Armed SS

The NS Motor Corps (NSKK)

The NS Flying Corps (NSFK)

The Hitler Youth (HJ)

The Reich Labor Service (RAD)

The Organization Todt (OT)

On the Governmental Level

The Head of State

The Secret Cabinet Council

The Reich Cabinet

The Ministerial Council for the Defense of the Realm

The Office of the Four Year Plan

The Reich Commissioners

The Foreign Office

The Reich War Ministry

The Reich Air Ministry

The Reichstag

On the Military Level

The Supreme Commander

The Supreme Command of the Armed Forces

The High Command of the Army

The High Command of the Navy

The High Command of the Air Force

Field Commanders, i.e., the commanders of Army Groups, Armies, Fleets, and Air Fleets

The Commands of all auxiliary forces attached to one or several branches of the three services

It must be proved, first, that these organizations, agencies, or functional groups thereof have been responsible for the actual preparation, initiation, and execution of aggressive actions, which introduced a state of war between Germany on the one hand and the nation under attack and its allies on the other; and second, that the launching of such wars was done:

a. in violation of treaties and conventions to which the German State was a party;

b. in violation of any applicable international law;

c. as part of the over-all plan to dominate the world.

CHARGE III: Violation of International Rules of Warfare

This charge may be divided into two categories: crimes committed in the course of military operations; and crimes committed in the planning and execution of Nazi occupation policies.

A. Crimes committed in the course of military operations

It is not the responsibility of the OSS to establish what constitutes a violation of the Hague or Geneva Conventions or of the Rules of Sea Warfare. It will be assumed that such violations have been committed; outstanding examples of them will be supplied to OSS by the War Crimes Office. It will be the function of OSS to classify the types of crimes in order to assign responsibility for them to the several organizations and to fit them into the pattern of Charge I.

It will be safe to assume that the following types of crimes have been committed:

1. Shooting of hostages;
2. Shooting of commandos and paratroopers (on which evidence has already been collected);
3. Maltreatment of Allied prisoners of war, involving:
   a. starvation;
   b. humiliation;
   c. killing (lynching);
   d. illegal use of prisoners of war.
4. Collective reprisals against, or maltreatment of, civilian populations;
5. Willful spoliation or destruction of property;
6. Bombing of open cities, and of targets exempt from attack by law or agreement, such as hospital trains;
7. Other atrocities committed beyond the limits of measures recognized as necessary or traditional in the prosecution of war, outside combat areas, or after declared cessation of military resistance (e.g., destruction of Rotterdam).

It may prove necessary to enlarge these categories when the War Crimes Office sets forth what it considers a violation of the rules of warfare. The types sketched above will, however, be adequate for tracing the chain of responsibility for most such crimes. The agencies considered responsible include:

On the Party Level

The Führer

The Party Press and Propaganda Offices

The Gauleiter in their capacity as organizers of home shock troops, including the Volkssturm

The SA

The SS

The General SS and the Armed SS, and specifically the Security Service (in the Reichssicherheitshauptamt), which includes the Secret State Police

The Motor Corps (NSKK)

The Hitler Youth (HJ)

On the Government Level

The Head of State

The Ministerial Council for the Defense of the Realm

The Foreign Office

The Ministry of the Interior, including the various branches of the Police

The Propaganda Ministry

The Air Ministry

On the Military Level

The Supreme Commander

The Supreme Command of the Armed Forces

The High Command of the Army (OKH)

The High Command of the Navy (OKM)

The General Armed Forces Office; specifically, the Inspector General for PW's and the Guidance Staff

The High Command of the Air Force (OKL)

Field Commanders, including the Commanders of Army Groups, Armies, Fleets, and Air Fleets

Commanders of special auxiliary forces -- e.g., Field Gendarmerie

Proof must be established that in the course of conducting their campaigns these organizations and agencies authorized or executed the acts which violated international law; the laws, rules, and customs of war; or the laws of sea warfare.

B. Crimes Committed in the Planning and Execution of Nazi Occupation Policies

It is possible, then, at a fairly early stage, to present the case against the Nazi organization and its leaders for the planning and the execution of crimes committed in the application of their occupation policies.

1. Planning and Preparation. Measures pertinent to this charge include:

   a. Employment of divisive tactics openly and surreptitiously in foreign countries, such as promoting ethnic, religious, and political disputes and differences, for the purpose of opening the door to Nazi influence on national and local policy and of weakening or destroying resistance to intended military and political encroachments.

   b. Establishment and utilization of groups with divided loyalties and of outright German and native fifth columns abroad for the above purposes.

   c. Employment of bribery, corruption, and false and subversive propaganda in such countries.

   d. Entering into treaties without intent to observe them and thereafter violating them in furtherance of an over-all plan of conquest and domination.

   e. Infiltration of spies and saboteurs into such countries to supplement threats of invasions and aggressive wars.

   f. Carrying out the foregoing in violation of international law and the laws of the countries concerned.

g. Increasing Germany's own war potential and reducing the defensive capacity of other nations by creating monopolistic and other unlawful schemes and devices in furtherance of Germany's general plan of European domination.

Agencies considered responsible for the planning and preparation of occupation policies have been listed largely under CHARGE I. They include specifically:

On the Party Level

The Reichsdienststellen

Party Office for Foreign Policy
Party Office for Indoctrination
Party Offices for Press and Propaganda
Party Office for Folkdom

The Foreign Organization

The SS

Staff HQ of the Reich Commissioner for the Consolidation of "Folkdom"
Office for Intelligence Abroad within the Reich Main Security Office
Central Bureau for Protective Measures for Non-Germans
Bureau for Bi-National and International Associations and Institutions
Bureau for the Four Year Plan

The NS Motor Corps

The League for Germans Abroad (VDA)

The German Foreign Institute

On the Government Level

Reich Ministries

Occupied Territories
Interior (Division I: Annexed and Occupied Territories; and Police)
Foreign Office (Division for Cultural Policy)

Office of the Four Year Plan

On the Military Level

The Supreme Command of the Armed Forces (OKW)

The High Command of the Army

The High Command of the Navy

The High Command of the Air Force

Proof is to be established that those organizations or agencies which authorized the above atrocities and other crimes in so doing exercized a responsibility fully within the limits of their jurisdiction and as a result of an over-all policy which directed or envisaged their commission.

2. Execution

In analyzing the execution of occupation policies the following basic distinctions must be made:

a. USSR: Germany did not consider itself bound by international law in its warfare with the Soviet Union (references will be cited).

b. Czechoslovakia and Poland: Germany asserted that these countries had ceased to exist as states.

c. France: Germany was bound by the terms of the Armistice agreement.

d. All Others: Germany asserted that it abided by international law.

We must consider first the territorial transactions which took place after 1 September 1939, namely; the incorporation of:

a. Luxemburg, Eupen, Malmedy, and Moresnet.

b. Lower Styria and Upper Carinthia.

c. Alsace-Lorraine.

d. the Polish territories.

The official German statements and decrees will be quoted, proving that the Germans themselves were conscious of the illegality of their actions. This has already been done in the R & A 2500 series. In these was stated the responsibility, first of the planners, and second, of the major executors of the policy. These two groups appear to include:

a. The Ministerial Council for Defense of the Reich

b. The Reich Ministry of the Interior

c. The Reich Ministry for the Eastern Occupied Territories

d. The Foreign Office

e. The Office of the Four Year Plan

f. The Civil Commissioners

g. The Higher SS and Police Leaders

h. The OKW, OKH, and OKL

i. The Reich Party Office for Foreign Policy

j. The Gauleiter Foreign Organization of the Party

k. Other agencies instrumental in carrying out the orders of the above.

The policies proper must next be considered. It will simplify matters to confine attention to major crimes which transcend territorial distributions. They are:

1. The deportation of civilian labor. Under this category we shall examine and provide examples of:

   a. The legal bases

   b. The organizations involved:

      The Four Year Plan Office

      The Commissioner General for Labor Supply

      The Speer Ministry (after 1943)

      The German Labor Front

      The Reich Labor Service

      The SS Plant Brigades

      The NS Motor Corps

      The VA (camp guards)

      The Organization Todt

      The Technical Emergency Corps

      etc.

2. The extermination of the Jews.

   a. The legislation

   b. The question of what happened to the Jewish population

   c. The agencies responsible:

      The SS

      The Four Year Plan

      The Rosenberg Ministry

      The Reich Ministry of the Interior

      etc.

3. The extermination of other groups, such as the Polish intelligentsia.

4. The spoliation of property. Again we shall examine:

a. The legal basis

b. The agencies involved:

The Four Year Plan (Haupttrauhandstelle Ost)

The OKW (War Economy and Armament Office)

The Ministry of Economics

The Speer Ministry

The Minister for Food and Agriculture and the Food Estate

The Einsatzstab Rosenburg

The Reich Commissioner for the Strengthening of German Peopledom (and the corresponding office in the Party)

The Race and Settlement Office in the SS

The Self Government of German Industry

On the above ample documentation exists; there is as well the very comprehensive R & A study: "Economic and Financial Controls in Occupied Europe." It will be possible, in addition, to indicate certain major beneficiaries of Germanization.

5. The operation of concentration camps for foreign nationals inside and outside of Germany. Under this there will be discussed:

a. The legal basis

b. The agencies involved:

The SS

The SD

etc.

CHARGE IV: Domestic Crimes

Of all the counts, "Violation of domestic laws since 1933" presents the greatest legal difficulties.

1. The legal problem: This consists of the question: What is domestic German law? The following answers are possible:

   a. It is the sum total of all laws valid in Germany on VE day.

   b. It is the law of the Weimar Republic, since the Nazis came to power unconditionally.

The first alternative (validity of Nazi laws) is, however, subject to two interpretations:

   a. One may interpret Nazi law according to Nazi doctrine.

   b. One may interpret Nazi laws according to liberal doctrines.

The difference is considerable. If one interprets Nazi laws according to Nazi ideology, no murder committed in a concentration camp can be considered a crime, since it is the essence of Nazi political and constitutional theory that acts committed by Party organs are sovereign acts not subject to judicial review.

If one interprets Nazi laws according to liberal conceptions, one finds that section 211 of the Penal Code makes murder punishable with death, and that there is no statutory provision authorizing any authority to kill a man without trial.

One must thus operate under two assumptions:

   a. the invalidity of the Nazi laws; and

   b. their validity subject to interpretation according to civilized standards.

2. The types of crimes committed: In selecting the types of crimes, one must bear in mind that we are indicting Nazis for their violation of German law because we desire to demonstrate that

a. in their struggle for the attainment and strengthening of their power of Germany they deliberately committed crimes; and

b. that the establishment of total control over Germany was merely a step in their aim to seize control of Europe and possibly of wider areas.

Charge IV thus ties in with Charge I. It requires, however, an analysis of Nazi terrorism and a study of the attitude of the Nazi leaders toward acts of terror committed by subordinates. One must -- and can -- prove that already in the period prior to 1933 crimes were considered a necessary and desirable weapon in terrorizing the opposition. (A study of this has already been "farmed out" and will be ready in about two weeks.)

This conception of a basic plan of conquest determines also one's selection of domestic crimes for analysis. They are:

a. Establishment of rigid internal control over the government and all its agencies, religion, administration of justice, education, news dissemination, finance, commerce, industry, labor, and the professions.

b. Destruction of all political resistance to the Nazi system by terrorizing, confining, and destroying opposition elements.

c. Division of the German citizenry on a racial basis and discrimination against those who were adjudged not to be of German blood.

d. Unlawful expropriation, spoliation, and forced sale for for the personal enrichment of Nazis and for the purpose of establishing, solidifying, and maintaining internal control in Nazi hands.

e. Establishment and perpetuation of Nazi control through the total execution of the Führer principle.

f. Destruction of racial minorities and political opponents through underfeeding; sterilization and castration; deprivation of livelihood, clothing, shelter, fuel, sanitation, and medical care; deportation for forced labor; work under inhumane conditions.

3. Of these charges the following are of special significance:

a. Elimination of the political opposition. Under this we discuss: the statutes and laws against political parties; and the treatment of opponents. The Foreign Nationalities Branch will supply us with exact information on: political opposition leaders killed without trial; the circumstances; the perpetrators (if possible); the witnesses.

b. The elimination of the trade unions. Under this will be considered: the statutes; the seizure of property; the fate of some union leaders (see above on Foreign Nationalities Branch).

c. The Roehm Putsch of 30 June 1934 and the elimination of the conservative opposition (Schleicher, Bredow, Kahr, Klausener).

The Nazi victims proper will not be dealt with, but only those others who went down with them. The so-called indemnity law, however, which "justified" the purge, will have to be discussed, and the agencies and leaders responsible for it determined.

d. The persecution of the churches. Here one has to deal with the legal enactments; the fate of the Churches and sects; and the fate of certain personalities. Attention will be drawn to the fake trials against members of Catholic orders. The Foreign Nationalities Branch will again help out.

e. The anti-Jewish policies: Interest here will be in:

i. The legal enactments. Special attention will be given to the problems of whether and to what extent a predetermined plan was executed; and to the stages of its execution.

ii. The fate of the Jews. SHAEF has collected data on the remaining Jewish population.

4. Agencies responsible for the commission of crimes under Charge IV include practically the whole Party and government apparatus, specifically:

<u>On the Party Level</u>

The Führer

The Deputy and Successor's Designate

The Party Chancellery

The Führer's Chancellery

The Reichsleiter

The Gauleiter

The leaders of the Reichsdienstellen (Reich Party office)

The Reich Organization Leader and his staff
The Reich Treasurer and his staff
The Supreme Party Court
The Delegate for Indoctrination
The Reich Propaganda Leader
The Reich Press Chief
The Reich Leader for the Press
The Chief of Party Censorship
The Reich Leaders of the Professions (e.g., physicians, lawyers, engineers, civil servants, farmers, etc.)
The Main Office for Public Health
The Main Office for Public Welfare
The Delegate and Main Office for "Folkdom"
The Office for Racial Policy
The Office for Genealogical Research
The SA and SA Wehrmannschaften (Defense Units)
The SS, i.e., General SS and Armed SS, including the Death's Head Units and the following offices within the SS:

The Main Offices:
e.g. the SS Hauptamt
the SS Führungshauptamt
the SS Wirtschafts- und Verwaltungshauptamt (specifically Office Group D: Operation and Administration of Con-Centration camps)
the Reichssicherheitshauptamt: specifically, offices III (Deutsche Lebensgebiete), IV(Gestapo) and V (Kripo)
the SS Rasse und Siedlungshauptamt
the SS Personalhauptamt
the Persönlicher Stab des Reichsführer's SS, including the Lebensborn Association and the Society "Ahnenerbe".
the Dienststelle of the OGrF Heissmeyer
the Higher SS and Police leaders
the Leaders of Oberabschnitte, Abschnitte, and Standarten.

The Hitler Youth (cf. Streifendienst)
The NS Motor Corps
The NS Women's League
The NS Students' League.
The NS University Teachers' League

Party affiliates

The German Labor Front
The NS Welfare
The NS War Victims
The NS Professional League

Other Party-related organizations

The Reich Labor Service
The Organization Todt
The NS Flying Corps

On the Government Level

The Head of State

The Chancelleries

The Cabinet

The Secret Cabinet Council

The Ministerial Council for the Defense of the Realm

Reich Ministries

Interior, including the various branches for the Police, the Health Office, etc.
Armaments and Production
Finance
Economics
Food and Agriculture
Labor
Education
Propaganda, including the Reich Chamber of Culture
Ecclesiastical Affairs

The Office of the Four Year Plan

The Reich Commissioner (e.g., for Labor Allocation, Prices, Health, Consolidation of German Folkdom)

The Reichsbank

The Reichstag

The Supreme Courts

The Reichsgericht
The Reichverwaltungsgericht
The Volksgerichtshof (including the highest judges and chief public prosecutors)

The German Labor Front
The NS Welfare
The NS War Victims
The NS Professional League

Other Party-related organizations

The Reich Labor Service
The Organization Todt
The NS Flying Corps

On the Government Level

The Head of State

The Chancelleries

The Cabinet

The Secret Cabinet Council

The Ministerial Council for the Defense of the Realm

Reich Ministries

Interior, including the various branches for the Police, the Health Office, etc.
Armaments and Production
Finance
Economics
Food and Agriculture
Labor
Education
Propaganda, including the Reich Chamber of Culture
Ecclesiastical Affairs

The Office of the Four Year Plan

The Reich Commissioner (e.g., for Labor Allocation, Prices, Health, Consolidation of German Folkdom)

The Reichsbank

The Reichstag

The Supreme Courts

The Reichsgericht
The Reichverwaltungsgericht
The Volksgerichtshof (including the highest judges and chief public prosecutors)

On the Military Level

The Supreme Commander

The NS Guidance Staff

The Commander of the Home Army and Volkssturm

III. PROCEDURE AND SOURCES

The above list of organizations and agencies, or parts thereof, is not meant to be complete. Completion and, if necessary, correction of the list will be attempted with the help of available documentary sources. In view of the fact that the object of the research is not the detection of crimes but the exposure of jurisdictional power by virtue of which certain crimes were committed, those sources merit priority which reveal the origin of such power.

Consequently, the following order of validity will be respected:

a. Laws, decrees, edicts, orders, and ordinances issued by German civilian or military authorities, e.g., Hitler's order of 18 October 1942 demanding the shooting of commandos.

b. Statements by German leaders in speeches, broadcasts, books, newspapers, magazines, etc.

c. Official literature published by one of the organizations or agencies involved.

d. Official German documents, not destined for indiscriminate publication, e.g., military, diplomatic, or other manuals, reports, correspondence, memoranda, plans, drafts, etc.

e. Diplomatic and political treaties and agreements, public and secret.

f. Financial, commercial, and trade agreements and data.

g. Biographical records.

h. Statements by official German experts, commentators, and propagandists.

i. PW interrogations.

j. Testimonies of witnesses.

k. Pictorial evidence, e.g., German newsreels.